IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A medical system architecture comprising:

a plurality of modalities for acquiring medical examination images;

a plurality of computer workstations respectively allocated to the modalities for processing the respective medical examination images therefrom;

a transmission device connected to said computer workstations for transmitting said medical examination images to a location remote from said computer workstations;

a memory connected to said transmission device for storing said medical examination images;

a further computer workstation connected to said transmission device for post-processing said medical examination images;

each of said computer workstations and said further computer workstation containing a work list management unit in which a work list, listing tasks to be performed by that workstation, is stored and which has a detector that determines, and emits a detector output signal representing, usage of that computer workstation dependent on the stored work list; and

at least one of said computer workstations or said further computer workstation a task generator in communication via said transmission device with the respective work list management units of all of the computer workstations and the further computer workstation to receive the respective detector output signals therefrom, said task generator

including an evaluation device that manages the usage of said computer workstation and said further computer workstation to process said medical examination images dependent on ~~which reacts to~~ the respective detector output ~~received~~ signals received from said computer workstations and said further computer workstation ~~to manage usage of the computer workstations and the further computer workstation~~.

Claim 2 has been amended as follows:

2. (Currently amended) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ each detector comprises a threshold detector that compares a number of still pending ~~cases~~ tasks in said work list to a work load threshold ~~an input~~ value entered into the detector, and which generates a request signal, as said detector output signal, and transmits said request signal ~~it~~ to said task generator when said number of still pending tasks ~~a work load at that computer workstation~~ falls below said work load ~~a request~~ threshold ~~represented by said input~~ value.

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. (Currently amended) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 wherein each detector comprises a threshold comparator that compares a number of still pending tasks ~~diagnostic cases~~ in said work list to a saturation threshold ~~an input~~ value entered into the detector, and which generates a saturation signal, as said detector output signal, and transmits said saturation signal to said task generator when said number of still pending tasks ~~a work load at that computer workstation with diagnostic cases to be processed~~ exceeds ~~a~~ said saturation threshold ~~represented by said input~~ value.

4. (Original) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 wherein each of said computer workstation contains a task generator.

Claim 5 has been amended as follows:

5. (Currently amended) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a server with a routing device connected to said task generator, said server forwarding said ~~diagnostic cases~~ medical examination images to respective workstations among said computer workstations and said further computer workstation dependent on the respective signals received by said task generator.

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. (Currently amended) A method for controlling usage of a computer workstation, comprising the steps of:

electronically processing a work load of ~~diagnostic cases~~ pending tasks comprising medical examination images to be processed at a computer workstation dependent on ~~a~~ an electronic work list of said pending tasks;

if a number of said pending tasks in said work list ~~work load of said diagnostic cases~~ at said computer workstation falls below a ~~request~~ work load threshold value, communicating a request signal to a task generator located remote from said computer workstation;

if a number of said pending tasks in said work list ~~said work load of~~ said computer workstation exceeds a saturation threshold, communicating a saturation signal to said task generator;

when said task generator receives said request signal, transmitting further ~~diagnostic cases~~ medical examination images to be processed to said computer workstation; and

when said task generator receives said saturation signal, inhibiting transmission of further ~~diagnostic cases~~ medical examination images to be processed to said computer workstation.